



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/534,562	03/27/2000	Shintaro Ichihara	Q58495	3546

7590 08/27/2003

SUGHRUE MION ZINN MACPEAK & SEAS  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue N W  
Washington, DC 20037-3202

EXAMINER

HO, TUAN V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2612

DATE MAILED: 08/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SM

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/534,562

Applicant(s)

ICHIHARA, SHINTARO

Examiner

TUAN HO

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5 and 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 March 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 & 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 2612

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

2. The drawings are objected to because English legends are required for block elements in Fig. 2 so as to replace the Japanese legends. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Art Unit: 2612

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hsieh et al (US 5,96950).

Hsieh et al discloses in Fig. 5, a video conferencing system that comprises the digital camera (camera 110, col. 5, line 58), image data memory apparatus having the first memory section (disk memory 140, col. 6, line 6, main memory 132 and cache memory 134, col. 5, lines 64-65; a section including main memory 132 and cache memory 134 can store image data, col. 9, lines 40-51), communication apparatus (cable 119, and bus 122, 124 or 126 connect camera 110 and memories, col. 6, lines 6-43 is used to connect camera 110 with the memories), and first memory section is provided with a cache area and a saving area (cache memory 143 and main memory 132 are used to store image data from the camera 110 and the image data is processed by processor 128, col. 9, lines 20-32; it is noted that according to a function of a cache memory, cache 134 inherently stores

Art Unit: 2612

image data that can be deleted and new image data can be stored; and main memory 132 is a saving area in which the image data is inherently accumulated so as to be processed by processor 128).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsieh et al.

Hsieh et al discloses in Fig. 5, a video conferencing system that comprises the digital camera (camera 110, col. 5, line 58), first memory section is provided with a cache area and a saving area (main memory 132 and cache memory 134, col. 5, lines 64-65; a section including main memory 132 and cache memory 134 can store image data, col. 9, lines 40-51; cache memory 143 and main memory 132 are used to store image data from the camera 110 and the image data is processed by processor 128, col. 9, lines 20-32; it is noted that according to a function of a cache memory, cache 134 inherently stores image data that can

Art Unit: 2612

be deleted and new image data can be stored; and main memory 132 is a saving area in which the image data is inherently accumulated so as to be processed by processor 128), except that the output means for outputting the desired image data to be printed from the first memory section to an external printing apparatus.

Hsieh et al does explicitly discloses any outputting means which outputs a desired image data to be printed from the memories. However, Hsieh et al teaches using a printer port 18 shown in Fig. 1 to print image data from card 19 so as to preserve the image data on a hard copy (col. 1, lines 20-55).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a printer in the system of Hsieh et al so as to print image data from the main and to preserve the data on a hard copy.

5. Claims 2-5 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Art Unit: 2612

Rosenberg discloses a video camera system that includes SRAM and DRAM.

Ishikawa discloses a video camera system that includes a Cache memory.

Suzuki discloses a digital camera connected to a printer.

Tanaka discloses a dual mode electronic camera.

Nagasaki et al discloses an electronic camera that includes a local memory.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan Ho whose telephone number is (703) 305-4943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**(703)872-9314**

Art Unit: 2612

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal  
Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth  
Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status  
of this application or proceeding should be directed to the  
Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone  
number is (703) 306-0377.

th

8/24/03

  
TUAN HO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER